TOMORROW, BECOME EVEN STRONGER! THE BATTLE OF YOUNG GRAY'S JOURNEY!!

GRAY LOOKS UP TO A DAUNTING FIGURE! AS GILDARTS SHOWS OFF HIS OVERWHELMING MIGHT, IS THIS A FATED ENCOUNTER?!

CHAPTER 5: A CHANCE MEETING AND REMINISCIENCE

YUSUKE SHIRATO

TALE OF FAIRY TAIL

ICE TRAIL

～氷の軌跡～

アイストレイル

Fairy Tail Ice Trail

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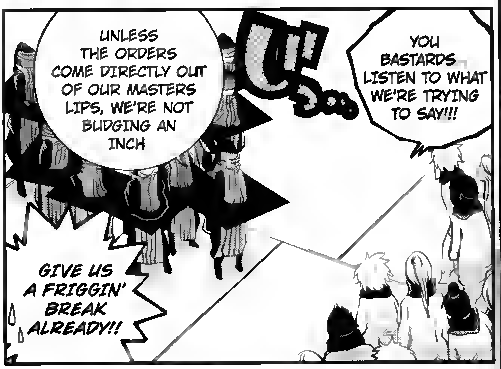
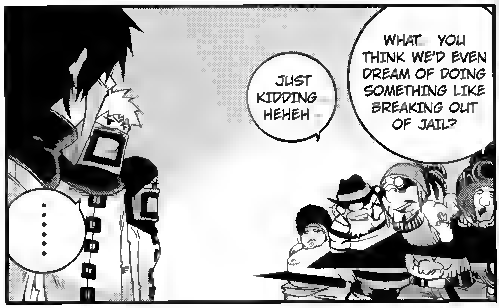
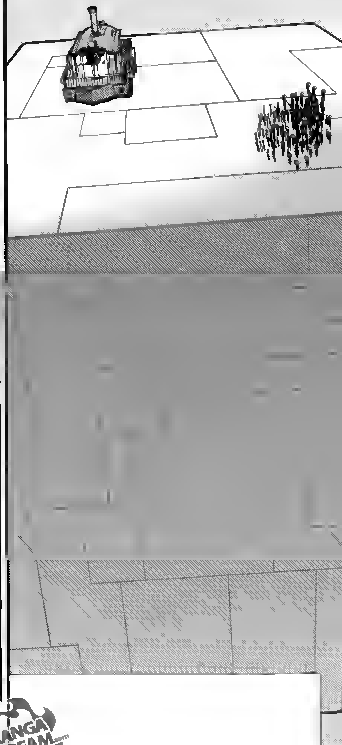

UNLESS THE ORDERS COME DIRECTLY OUT OF OUR MASTERS LIPS, WE'RE NOT BUDGING AN INCH
YOU BASTARDS LISTEN TO WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO SAY!!!
GIVE US A FRIGGIN' BREAK ALREADY!!





MANGA STREAM

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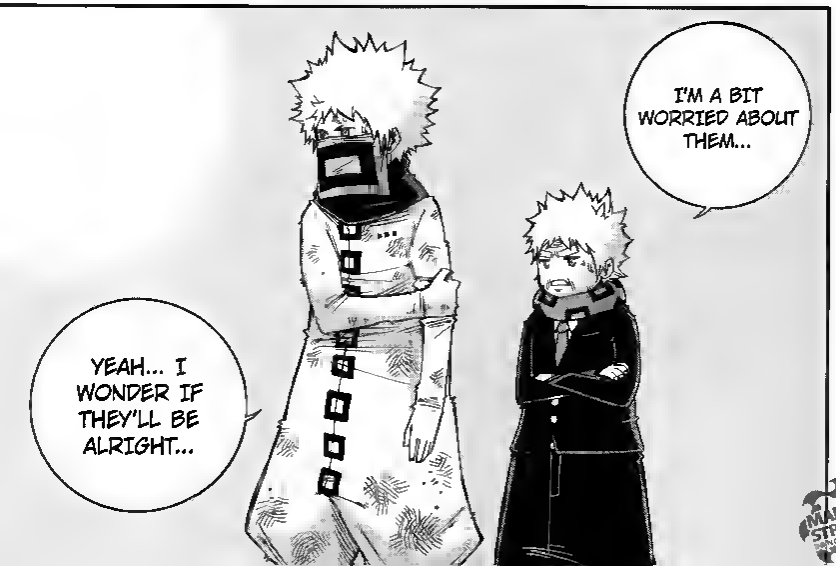

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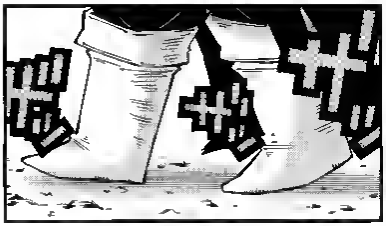
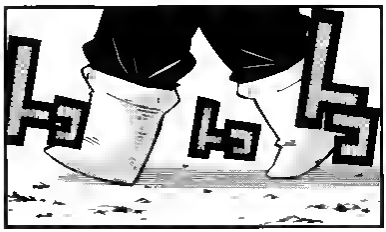
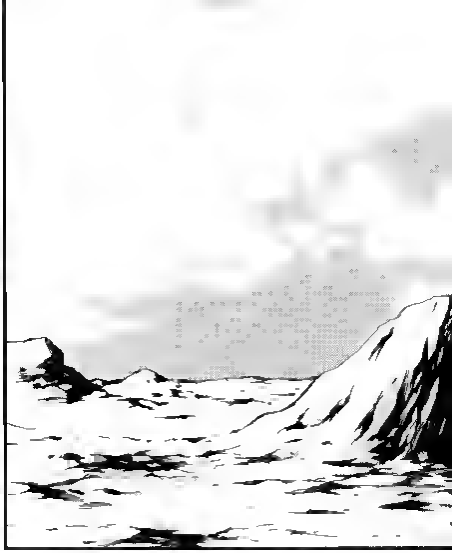
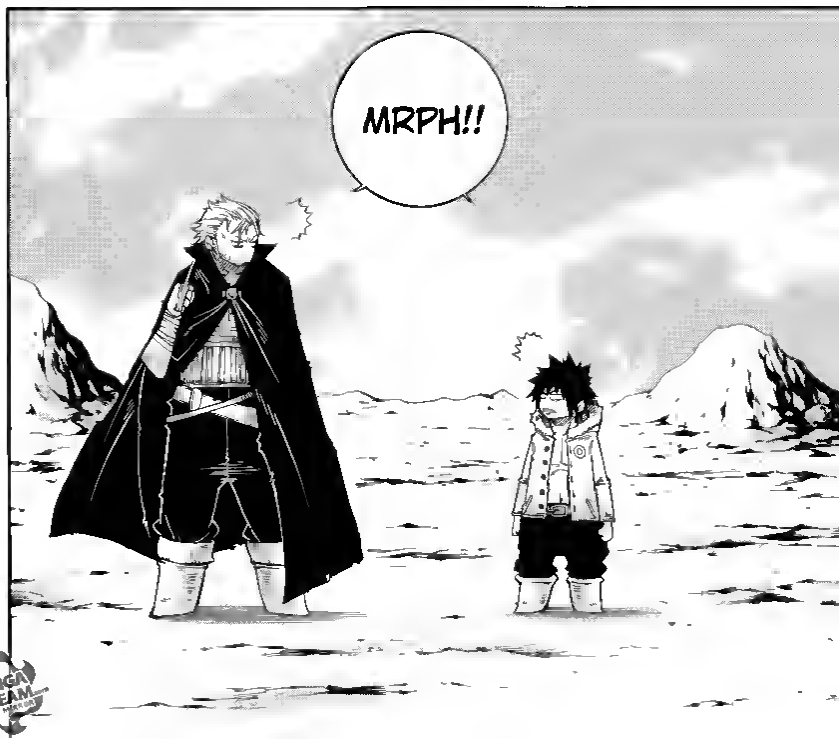


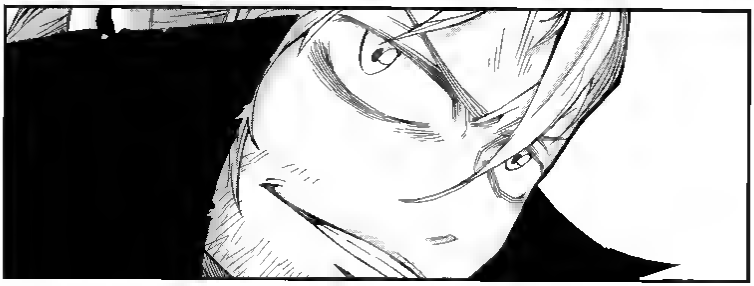






MANGA STREAM
DO NOT HOTLINK

YOU IDIOTIC PUNK, I HAVE BUSINESS IN THIS DIRECTION... THERE'S NO WAY I'D BE FOLLOWING SOME SNOT-NOSED BRAT.
AND I'M NO WHERE NEAR A GEEZER YET...
WHY THE HELL ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME, GEEZER?! STOP COPYING ME!!
SHAD DDAAPP !!!
WHAT THE HELL YOU DOING, LITTLE SHIT?!
FNN GGHH HH!!
AND I'M NOT A SNOT-NOSED BRAT!!!
HOURS EARLIER...



MANGA STREAM
NO ROT WARRIOR

A... AMAZING...
SOMEONE THIS POWER-FUL ACTUALLY EXISTS?!
GLANCE
FUFU... I CAN JUST FEEL THAT BURNING GAZE...
GRIN
!!!
THIS LITTLE BRAT TOTALLY THINKS I'M THE SHIT, LIKE... FOR SURE...
HEY, GEEZER !!!
WHAT THE?! GEEZ...
KYA AAAA AA!!
IF YOU FINE LADIES WANNA HOP ABOARD THIS LOVEFEST, BY ALL MEANS, FEEL FREE TO DO SO~
MANGA STREAM

SEEING SOME OLD FART LIKE YOU DOESN'T IMPRESS ME NONE!!!
I'M THE DISCIPLE OF A WAAAY, WAY, WAAAY, MORE POWERFUL MAGE!!!
YOU!
TOTAL BULLCRAP.
SO HOW ' BOUT IT, YOU CAN BE MY DISCIPLE IF YOU WANNA?
JUST KIDDI...
PUUH WHHEE EHH!!!
WHAT'S THAT? STRONGER THAN ME?
THEY DO!!
AS IF SOMEONE LIKE THAT EXISTS AROUND HERE.

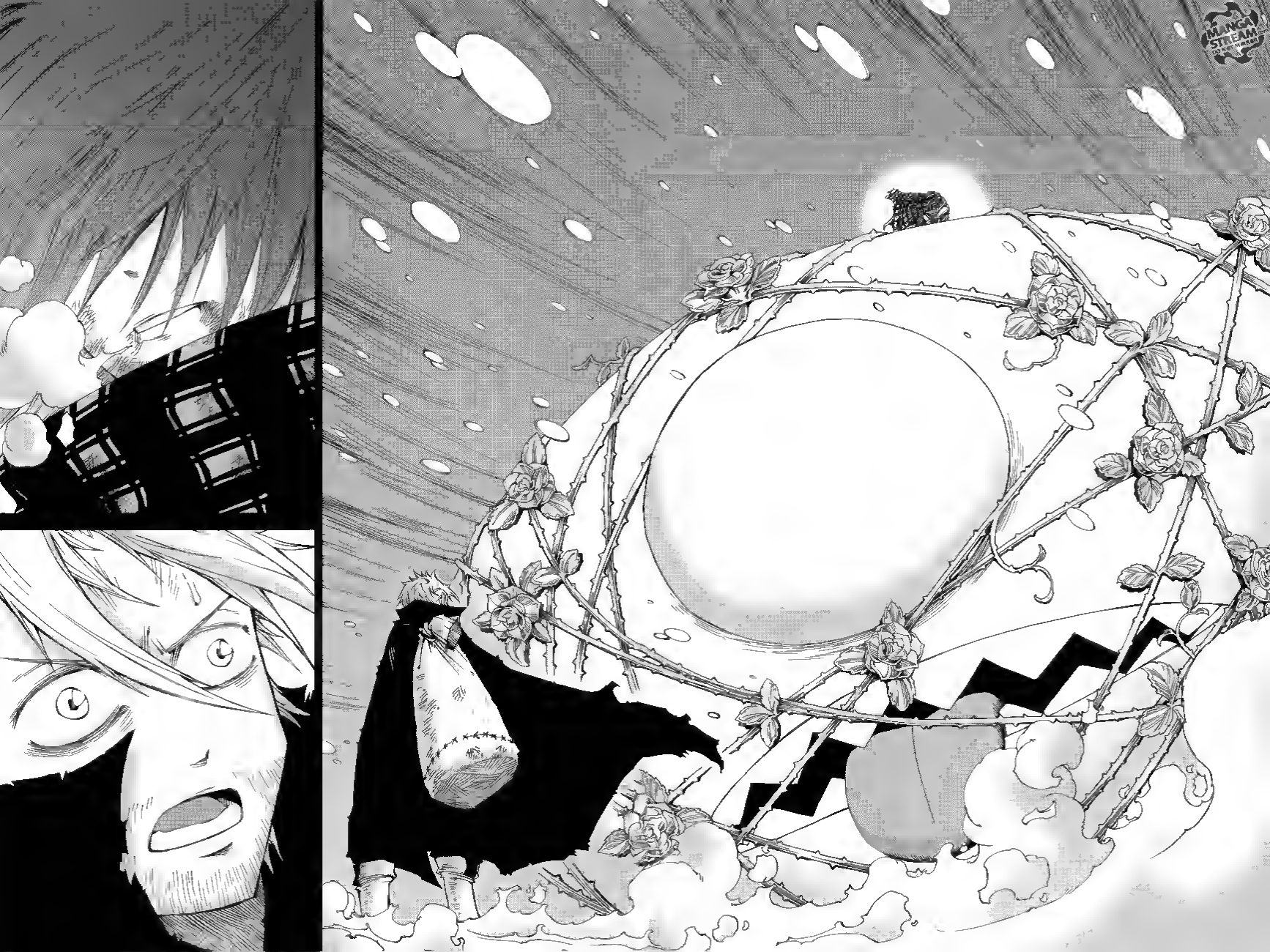
I'VE ONLY GOT ONE MASTER!! I'M GONNA WIPE THAT CONCEITED SMIRK OFF YER FACE !!!
OWW!! KNOCK IT OFF, STUPID!!!! WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING TO ME?!
.....
HAAH
HAAH
PANT
PANT
I'M HUNGRY...
LET'S TAKE A LITTLE BREAK...

RUSTLE RUSTLE
GULP
!!!
CHOMP CHOMP
MANGA STREAM
!!!?
IN THAT CASE, ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS SAY "GILDARTS-SAMA IS THE STRONGEST".
OH, WHAT'S THIS? YOU WANT SOME?
WAVE
OWWW WWWWW WWWWC CHH!!!
.....
GRUMBLE
.....
GRUMBLE

MUNCH MUNCH
GEEZ...
MUNCH MUNCH
YOU MORON!! MY HAND ISN'T EDIBLE!!
YOU SAID YOUR MASTER WAS STRONGER THAN ME...
HEY, GRAY...
MANGA STREAM
.....
IT'S... UR.
!
WHO IS YOUR MASTER ANYWAYS? HRM?
GULP
!!??
UR... YOU'RE THIS KID'S...
SO... THAT'S IT...
...UR...

OLD MAN!!! YOU KNEW UR?!!
OW!!
WELL, YEAH... IT WAS A LITTLE WHILE AGO BUT...
ANYWAY, HOW IS SHE? SHE DOING WELL?
!!!
UR...
UR... IS...
?

I SEE... SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...
.....
.....
.....
OLD MAN... WHERE DID YOU MEET UR?
.....
WHEN WAS IT, I WONDER...
IT WAS WHEN WE WERE ON A GHOST SUP-PRESSION QUEST IN THE NORTH MOUNTAINS...


MANGA STREAM

WHA...
WHAT THE... WHAT IS THIS?
!?
HEY SIS... THANKS FOR SAVING US...
SOWHEEE...
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?! THIS ENTIRE AREA IS A DANGER ZONE!!
ARE YOU OKAY? ARE YOU HURT ANYWHERE?
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALRIGHT!

I WAS THE ONE THAT BROUGHT THEM ALL HERE...TO GO EXPLORING...
DON'T COME BACK HERE.
BE CAREFUL ON THE WAY HOME TOO!!
OKAAY!!
NOW, GET ON HOME BEFORE IT STARTS GETTING DARK YOUR PARENTS ARE PROBABLY WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU
WHA... HOLD ON A SEC!!!!
STEP
.....
MANGA STREAM

AHH... I CAME FROM THE WEST COUNTRY.
TO DEFEAT THIS THING.
POKE
IS THAT SO... ALL THE WAY FROM THE WEST COUNTRY... SORRY ABOUT THAT.
I HAPPENED TO STUMBLE UPON THOSE KIDS GETTING ATTACKED AND HAD TO STEP IN...
WELL IT'S OKAY... IT'S NOT LIKE I CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE JUST FOR THIS
IT'S JUST ONE AMONG THE TONS THAT I'VE GOT.
BUT STILL I'M A BIT TAKEN ABACK TO THINK THAT THERE'S A MAGE HERE IN THE NORTH CAPABLE OF DEFEATING THIS THING
THIS GUY'S REALLY BEEN A THORN IN PEOPLE'S SIDES OUT HERE
?
!!?

GYOAHR
WHA... WHAT THE ??!!

NO WAY ...!!
IT HAS A SECOND BODY ATTACHED TO IT?!
I'LL HAVE TO DRAW IT AWAY FROM HERE...
I HOPE YOU HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE IN YOUR ABILITY TO FLEE...
!!?
YOU MIGHT WANT TO TAKE A STEP BACK.

STEP
HMPH...
WITH ONE ATTACK...!!
!!!
SO IT SEEMS THE WEST COUNTRY HAS THEIR FAIR SHARE OF POWERFUL MAGES AS WELL
HEY...

WHADDYA SAY WE PARTNER UP TOGETHER?
I... I'M NOT HITTING ON YOUR OR ANYTHING!! YOU'RE JUST PRETTY STRONG YOURSELF...AND WE CAN GET MORE OF THESE QUESTS DONE BEFORE THEY EXPIR
OR...ARE YOU ALREADY PART OF SOME GUILD SOMEWHERE?
NOPE...
I'VE LONG SINCE LEFT THAT LIFE BEHIND...I'VE QUIT FIGHTING UNDER ACTIVE DUTY...
BESIDES...
I HAD A DAUGHTER...
SHE'S GOT A KID?!?!
ONCE...

I STAYED HOPING THAT THE DAY WOULD COME...WHEN I COULD ONCE AGAIN GROOM THE NEXT GENERATION "HERE"...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, TIME HAD PASSED BY...HOW CAN I EXPLAIN THIS... I DON'T WANT TO LET GO OF THIS LAND...A LAND WHERE SHE AND I SPENT SO MUCH TIME TOGETHER...
THAT IS MY DREAM.

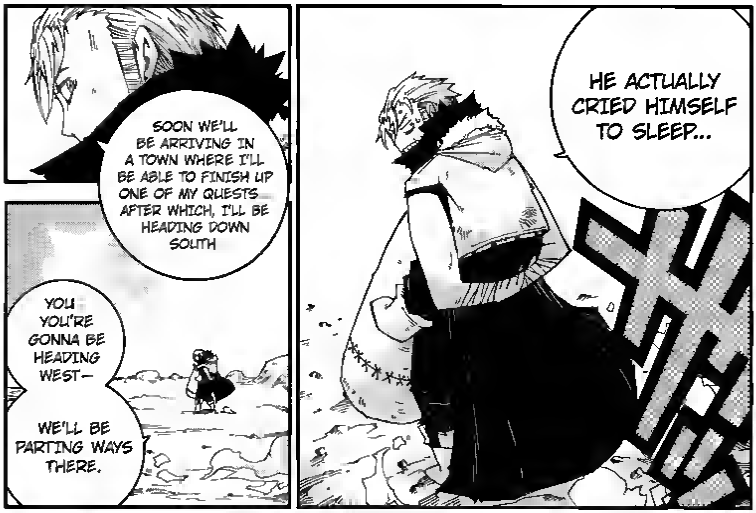
SO THEN... YOU MEAN BEFORE I HAD MET UR...
THAT HAPPENED...
AFTER THAT, SHE TURNED AND WALKED AWAY, LEAVING ONLY HER NAME...
MY TEARS.
THAT CHILD IS PROOF OF MY EXISTENCE... MY LIFE...
UR'S... DREAM...

IT WAS ME...
I STOLE UR'S DREAM AWAY...
IT'S MY FAULT UR IS...
GRAY.
!

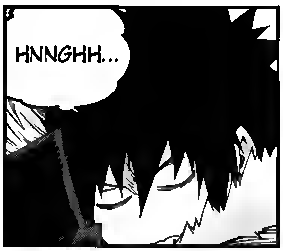
DO YOU ACTUALLY THINK THAT UR HAS ANY REGRETS SAVING YOU?
SHE WAS ALWAYS READY TO PUT HER LIFE ON THE LINE IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE FUTURE.
WALK ON...
TOWARDS THE FUTURE.

MANGA STREAM

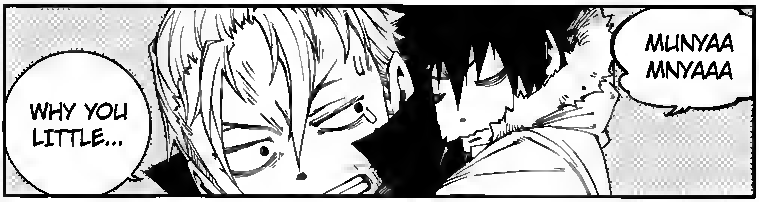
MANGA STREAM


HE ACTUALLY CRIED HIMSELF TO SLEEP...
SOON WE'LL BE ARRIVING IN A TOWN WHERE I'LL BE ABLE TO FINISH UP ONE OF MY QUESTS... AFTER WHICH, I'LL BE HEADING DOWN SOUTH
YOU YOU'RE GONNA BE HEADING WEST—
WE'LL BE PARTING WAYS THERE.

UR'S "DREAM"... EXISTS AS YOU... IN THE FORM OF YOURSELF...
GRAY.
FOR YOU TO CONTINUE LIVING LIKE THIS...HEADING FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE...
THAT IS UR'S DREAM...



THE SOURCE OF MANY THEIR SCUFFLE OVER BREAD ENDED IN HURT...



NOW, WITH THIS BODY CARRIED ON HIS BACK...
THE TORCH BURNING IN HIS HEART LIGHTS THE WAY FORWARD...

IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL I JUST MAY ACCIDENTALLY LOSE YOU BEFORE WE GET THERE, YOU DAMN BRAT...

■ NEXT CHAPTER, GRAY & GILDARTS' FIRST TAG TEAM MATCH?!

MANGA STREAM